General Administration) for various irregularities in award of contracts, misuse of power, splitting of works, etc.

Vacant posts in Railways

1106. SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number rof posts lying vacant as on the 31st March, 1987 in different zonal Railways; and

(b) the steps taken to fill up those vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Exemption of Tripura from hike in air fare by Indian Airlines/Vayudoot

1107. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state whether Government propose to exempt air passengers to and from Tripura from the present hike in air fare by Indian Airlines/ Vayudoot?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): In so far as Indian Airlines is concerned, the fares in North-Eastern Region are already lower by about 17.5 per cent than the all India fares. No change is proposed in this concession.

In the case of Vayudoot in will not be possible to exempt the State of Tripura from fare hike if and when Vayudoot hikes the fares.

Assam-Agartala Highway No. 44

1108. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that condition of Assam-Agartala Highway No. 44 is very bad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to improve the condition of the highway immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir. Assam-Agartala Highway N.H. No. 44 is in a traffic worthy condition.

(b) and (c) Development works on N.H. 44 are being stepped up. Till the year 1985-86 works were planned and executed to the extent of Rs. 4.00-5.00 crores annually. A sum of Rs. 5.77 crores had been allotted in the year 1986-87. During the year 1987-88, Rs. 10.79 crores are proposed to be spent.

Expansion of Vayudoot services in Andhra Pradesh

1109. SHRI GOPALA RAO, RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to expand the operations of Vayudoot in Andhra Pradesh during the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, what are the details with regard to the funds earmarked for expansion of Vayudoot and the new routes proposed to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Working Women's Hostel in Andhra Pradesh

1110. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hostels for working women under various centrally sponsored schemes along with their locations are functioning in different parts of Andhra Pradesh;